

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY :
RECORD NUMBER : ~~0-0-0~~ 104-10433-10204
RECORD SERIES : JFK
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : RUSS HOLMES WORK FILE

Released under the John
F. Kennedy
Assassination Records
Collection Act of 1992
(44 USC 2107 Note).
Case#:NW 53216 Date:
06-13-2017

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : CIA
FROM :
TO :
TITLE : TELEPOUCH:SUMMARY OF CUBAN MEDIA TREATMENT OF THE DEATH OF MARTIN
LUTHER KING,
DATE : 04/11/68
PAGES : 5
SUBJECTS : KING, MARTIN

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : UNCLASSIFIED
RESTRICTIONS : OPEN IN FULL
CURRENT STATUS : OPEN
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 12/18/98
OPENING CRITERIA :
COMMENTS : JFK-RH19:F09 1998.12.18.11:29:21:403129: FILE ORIGINAL IS PREVIOUSLY
SANITIZED DOCUMENT

POSTPONED IN FULL

[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

319

TELEPOUCH

DISP. NO - ~~B~~
FILE NO - NONE
DATE - // ~~20~~ APRIL 1968
INDEXING - NONE
MICROFILM - NONE
TO - CHIEF, ~~B~~
INFO - CHIEF, ~~B~~ CHIEF, ~~A~~
FROM - CHIEF ~~B~~
SUBJECT - SUMMARY OF CUBAN MEDIA TREATMENT OF THE DEATH OF

MICROFILMED
APR 15 1968
DOC. MICRO. SER.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, IAI APRIL 1968

THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY OF CUBAN MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE MARTIN LUTHER KING ASSASSINATION DURING THE PERIOD 5-8 APRIL HAS BEEN PREPARED BY THE ~~A~~

1. GRANMA /HAVANA DAILY NEWSPAPER OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CUBA/, 5 APRIL 68, FRONT PAGE - "LAST MINUTE NEWS - MARTIN LUTHER KING ASSASSINATED IN MEMPHIS, U.S.A. ACCORDING TO FIRST REPORTS, LUTHER KING HAS BEEN SHOT BY A 'WHITE WELL-DRESSED YOUNG MALE.'"

2. GRANMA, 7 APRIL, FRONT PAGE - "TWENTY-SEVEN PERSONS HAVE BEEN KILLED IN THE U.S. AS A RESULT OF THE FIGHTING WHICH HAS BEEN GOING ON SINCE THE ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING. IN WASHINGTON ALONE THERE ARE 750 WOUNDED AND 4,186 PERSONS ARRESTED. SNIPERS CONTINUE TO BE ACTIVE IN DIFFERENT CITIES IN THE U.S. THE WHITE HOUSE AND THE CAPITOL ARE UNDER HEAVY GUARD." /FULL INFORMATION

3. GRANMA, 7 APRIL, LAST PAGE - "TO RICHMOND TO LIBERATE RAP BROWN." /WASHINGTON, 7 APRIL, ASSOCIATED FRENCH PRESS - AFP, FRENCH NEWS AGENCY AMX LEAFLETS WERE DISTRIBUTED HERE THIS MORNING, URGING THE NEGRO PEOPLE OF WASHINGTON TO GO TO RICHMOND TO LIBERATE RAP BROWN." /THE LEAFLETS CALLED ON THE NEGROES TO FORM A MARCH CADE AND LEAVE FOR RICHMOND TOMORROW, MONDAY.

TELEPOUCH

PAGE ONE

APPROVED FOR RELEASE

Date 6 Mar 76

319

5

TELEPOUCH ~~B~~ PAGE TWO

4. GRANMA, 1 APRIL, LAST PAGE - ARTICLE ENTITLED "PRINCIPAL NEGRO ORGANIZATIONS IN THE U.S.", BY JUANA CARRASCO. THE ARTICLE SAYS THAT NEGRO ORGANIZATIONS ARE DIVIDED INTO TWO GROUPS - THE VIOLENT ONES AND THE NON-VIOLENT ONES. IT MENTIONS THE FOLLOWING AMONG THOSE WHICH ADVOCATE THE USE OF VIOLENCE - CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY /CORE/, STUDENT NON-VIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE /SNCC/, BLACK MUSLIMS, BLACK PANTHER PARTY, BLACKSTONE RANGERS, THE ALERT DETROIT, REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT /RAM/, THE BLACK GUARDS, THE BLACKS, AND "THE U.S.". THE FOLLOWING NEGRO ORGANIZATIONS ARE MENTIONED AMONG THOSE WHICH ADVOCATE NON-VIOLENCE - NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE /NAACP/, NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE, AND THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE /SCLC/.

5. GRANMA, 1 APRIL, LAST PAGE - "ATTEMPTS ARE BEING MADE TO BLAME CARMICHAEL FOR THE OUTBREAK OF RACIAL VIOLENCE IN THE U.S."

6. GRANMA, 1 APRIL, LAST PAGE - "RACIAL CLASHES BETWEEN NEGRO AND WHITE AMERICAN SOLDIERS IN JAPAN."

7. GRANMA, 1 APRIL, LAST PAGE - "THE AMERICAN NEGRO PEOPLE."

8. GRANMA, 1 APRIL, LAST PAGE - "MARTYRS OF THE NEGRO STRUGGLE."

9. RADIO LIBERACION AND RADIO PROGRESO /HAVANA RADIO STATIONS/, APRIL, 7:00 A.M. AND 12 NOON - "THE CHIEF OF THE MISSION TO CUBA OF THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT HAS SENT A MESSAGE TO AFRO-AMERICANS ON THE ASSASSINATION OF THE LEADER, MARTIN LUTHER KING. THIS MESSAGE SAYS THAT THE CRIME WHICH WAS COMMITTED AGAINST MARTIN LUTHER KING UNMASKS THE EVIL FACE OF THE RULERS AND RACISTS OF THE UNITED STATES." "THE MESSAGE OF THE VIETNAMESE MISSION IN HAVANA ENDS BY SAYING THAT, WITH THE ASSASSINATION OF LUTHER KING, ALL THAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED BY THE RULERS OF THE UNITED STATES IS TO POUR OIL ONTO THE FLAMES OF THE STRUGGLE OF AFRO-AMERICANS,"

TELEPOUCH ~~B~~ PAGE TWO

TELEPOUCH **B** PAGE THREE

THAT THESE FLAMES ARE RISING VIOLENTLY TO PUT AN END TO ALL THE
OPPRESSION AND INJUSTICE WHICH IS FOUND IN THE UNITED STATES, WHICH
HINDERS THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE MILLIONS OF PEOPLE IN THE ENTIRE
COUNTRY...

10.
QPM RADIO LIBERACION, 5 APRIL, 7 P.M. - STOKELY CARMICHAEL,
LEADER OF BLACK POWER, SAID - WE NEGROES MUST ARM OURSELVES WITH
KNIVES AND PISTOLS AND LAUNCH AN ASSAULT ON THE STREETS OF THE
CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES IN REPRISAL FOR KING'S ASSASSINATION.
CARMICHAEL PREDICTED THAT THERE WILL BE EXECUTIONS IN THE STREETS AS
A RESULT OF KING'S ASSASSINATION. HE ALSO PREDICTED THAT THE
VIOLENCE WHICH HAS BEEN UNLEASHED BY NEGROES AS A RESULT OF KING'S
DEATH WILL BE PALE AS COMPARED TO WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN AMERICAN
CITIES...

11.
QPM RADIO HABANA, 5 APRIL, 7 P.M. - THIS /KING'S/ DEATH SHOWS
TO US AGAIN THAT THE EXPLOITED MASSES CAN ONLY ANSWER REACTIONARY
VIOLENCE WITH REVOLUTIONARY VIOLENCE...

12.
QPM RADIO PROGRESO, 5 APRIL, 7 P.M. - CARMICHAEL SAID
DURING A TELEPHONE INTERVIEW THAT A SERIOUS MISTAKE HAS BEEN MADE
IN ASSASSINATING DR. KING BECAUSE HE HAD BEEN THE LEADER OF A MOVE-
MENT WHICH URGED THE NEGRO PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES NOT TO BURN
THE CITIES, NOT TO COMMIT ACTS OF VIOLENCE. THIS MEANS THAT IT WILL
BE NECESSARY TO START AN ALL-OUT REVOLUTION. CARMICHAEL ADDED
SERIOUS INCIDENTS HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN 35 CITIES WHERE THERE HAVE
BEEN FIRES, SHOOTING, FIGHTING, AND DEATHS AS A RESULT OF THE CRIME
COMMITTED AGAINST DR. KING. NATURALLY, OTHER SIMILAR THINGS WILL
TAKE PLACE. GUERRILLA WARFARE WILL RAPIDLY SPREAD THROUGH THE CITIES
BECAUSE IT IS ALREADY EVIDENT THAT WE CANNOT OPENLY REBEL AGAINST
THE POLICE. STOKELY CARMICHAEL ENDED THE INTERVIEW BY SENDING
AFFECTIONATE REGARDS TO THE REVOLUTIONARY CUBAN PEOPLE AND THEIR
LEADER, FIDEL CASTRO RUZ...

TELEPOUCH **B** PAGE THREE

TELEPOUCH **B** PAGE FOUR

13. RADIO HABANA, 4 APRIL, 7 P.M. A. J. JUAN /MARI/ BRAS, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE MOVEMENT FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF PUERTO RICO, MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS IN A LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE INTERVIEW - DR. LUTHER KING'S ASSASSINATION WILL UNDOUBTEDLY PRECIPITATE THE REBELLION OF THE NEGRO PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES AGAINST ALL THE ABUSES OF WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN THE OBJECT."

14. GRM RADIO HABANA, 5 APRIL, 7 P.M. A. J. THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT OF THE ASIAN, AFRICAN, AND LATIN AMERICAN PEOPLES SOLIDARITY ORGANIZATION /AALAPSO/ SENT A MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE TO THE SNCC ON THE ASSASSINATION OF LUTHER KING. "THE AALAPSO'S MESSAGE TO THE AMERICAN PACIFIST ORGANIZATION ENDS AS FOLLOWS A WE BEG YOU TO EXPRESS TO THE FAMILY OF MARTIN LUTHER KING AND TO ALL AFRO-AMERICANS OUR DEEPEST SORROW OVER HIS DEATH, OUR DECISION TO SUPPORT YOUR STRUGGLE, AND OUR DEEP CONVICTION THAT THIS TERRIBLE CRIME--WHICH SHOWS US THAT ARMED REVOLUTIONARY VIOLENCE IS THE ONLY WAY OF ACHIEVING GENUINE LIBERATION--WILL HELP STRENGTHEN THE STRUGGLE OF THE AFRO-AMERICAN PEOPLE WHICH IS ALREADY AIMED IN THE DIRECTION OF A TOTAL CONFRONTATION."

15. GRM RADIO HABANA, 4 APRIL, 7 P.M. A. J. AGUSTIN /GONZALEZ/ MARTINEZ, BISHOP OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF CUBA, MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS IN A SPECIAL INTERVIEW - MAY THE TRAGIC DISAPPEARANCE OF THIS GREAT LEADER AT LEAST HELP TO SPEED UP THE ARRIVAL OF THE DAY WHEN EVERY MAN IN HIS NATION AND IN ALL OTHER NATIONS WILL BE TREATED WITH THE RESPECT WHICH IS DUE TO THEM AS HUMAN BEINGS."

16. RYM RADIO HABANA, 4 APRIL, 7 P.M. A. J. REVEREND RAFAEL PASTOR, OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN LUYANO, HAVANA, MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS IN A SPECIAL INTERVIEW - HIS BROTHERS, THE AMERICAN NEGROES, WILL LEARN MUCH FROM HIS DEATH. WE CAN ALMOST ASSURE THAT THEY, THE AMERICAN NEGROES WHOSE DIGNITY AND DECORUM HAS BEEN CRUSHED, WILL COME BACK TO LIFE AFTER CENTURIES OF LETHARGY AND

TELEPOUCH **B** PAGE FOUR

TELEPOUCH ~~B~~ PAGE FIVE

ILL RISE FROM THEIR GRAVES AND FORM AN INVINCIBLE ARMY." JJ

17. ~~QHM~~ RADIO LIBERACION, ⁵ APRIL, ⁶ P.M. A EDITORIAL COMMENTS
CRITICIZING THE NON-VIOLENT LINE WHICH WAS ADVOCATED BY LUTHER KING,
SAYING THAT THIS LINE WAS INOPERATIVE. JJ MARTIN LUTHER KING DID NOT
REACH VIOLENCE BUT HE WAS THE VICTIM OF VIOLENCE. HE DID NOT
RELEASE VIOLENCE BUT VIOLENCE MOWED HIM DOWN."

18. ~~QHM~~ RADIO HABANA, ⁵ APRIL 68, ⁵³⁰ P.M. K "JOHNSON POSTPONED
HIS TRIP. HE CALLED THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADERS--WHO WERE MORE OR
LESS UNDER CONTROL--TO GO TO THE WHITE HOUSE. JOHNSON APPEARED ON
TELEVISION. HE EXPRESSED HIS ANGUISH AND HIS SORROW. HE MADE
INSPIRED COMMENTS ABOUT MARTIN LUTHER KING. THESE ACTIONS AND THESE
WORDS HIDE FEAR OVER THE WAVE OF JUST VIOLENCE WHICH IS STARTING TO
SPREAD THROUGH THE UNITED STATES." JJ AT A TIME WHEN COMPLEX INTER-
NATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT BE UNDERWAY, UNDER DIFFICULT CONDITIONS,
HIS NEW CRIME WIDENS THE CHASM WHICH DIVIDES THE PEOPLE OF THE
UNITED STATES AND INCITES THE PEOPLE TO PROMOTE DISTURBANCES WHOSE
FAR-REACHING EFFECTS ARE HARD TO PREDICT." JJ THE ASSASSINATION OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING CONFIRMS THAT THE VIOLENCE OF IMPERIALIST RACISTS
IS ONLY ANSWERED EFFECTIVELY WITH THE VIOLENCE OF THE REVOLUTIONARY
STRUGGLE."

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3 A ~~B~~

2 A ~~B~~

2 A ~~A~~

TELEPOUCH ~~B~~ PAGE FIVE

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